

New Shoreham Town Council Minutes
Town Hall Old Town Road
Monday, March 18, 2013
3:00 p.m.

Present: Second Warden Kenneth C. Lacoste, Town Councilor Sean McGarry, Town Councilor Norris Pike and Town Councilor Christopher Warfel. First Warden Kimberley Gaffett joined the meeting at 3:10. Also present were Town Manager Nancy O. Dodge and Finance Director Amy Land. Present for the Sewer Commission were Chair Peter McNerney, Wayne Battey, Sandra Finizia, Bradford Marthens, Thomas R. Doyle and alternate Allan MacKay. Alternate Steve Draper was absent. Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick was present to take the minutes. Second Warden Lacoste called the meeting to order at 3:03.

1. Meet with Sewer Commission

- Sewer Commission request to discuss taxpayer participation for sewer system improvements
- Update on Ocean Ave.

The meeting was called because the Town Council asked the Sewer Commission for detailed information about their request that the taxpayers bond \$1.4 million in debt and “approximately \$3 million in needed capital improvements and repairs.”

Engineer Jim Geremia presented a memorandum (attached to these minutes) of a five year capital improvement plan with fifteen components totaling \$2,926,000. A long discussion ensued. Councilor McGarry recused himself from a discussion about composting sludge.

The Town Council asked the Sewer Commission to prioritize their funding requests.

Mr. Geremia said the priorities are anything process related rather than building upgrades: pumps, pump station controls and the force main.

A discussion of sewage leaks into the Great Salt Pond and the November force main failure at the Ocean Avenue 1 pump station focused the Council on improvements to Ocean Avenue Pump Stations 1 and 2 and the force main:

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|---|------------------|
| • Improvements to two pump stations: | \$316,000 |
| • SCADA controls for two pump stations: | \$120,000 |
| • Force main replacement/repair | <u>\$250,000</u> |
| | \$686,000 |

The discussion about the force main:

- The asbestos-concrete force main failure at OA-1 in November may have been due to ground water saturation associated with flooding in Hurricane Sandy and road vibration
- The force main at OA-1 was bypassed/replaced
- The force mains cannot be slipped
- Force mains cannot be camera’d and a dye tests showed no breaks or leaks in the remaining force mains

There was a discussion of grease traps and enforcement.

There was a discussion of USDA /RUS grant-loan funding mechanism. There was a discussion of whether to bond some, all or none of the request. There was discussion of the funding formula used in the past when sewer rate payers paid at a 4:1 ratio with those outside the sewer district. This particular bonding would appear to be eligible for an exemption from the property tax cap. Any exemption must be approved by 4/5 of the Town Council and a majority of voters at Financial Town Meeting. The Sewer Commission was asked to provide a prioritized list of projects.

At 4:30 a motion to adjourn was made by Second Warden Lacoste and seconded by Mr. Pike.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Lacoste, McGarry, Pike, Warfel) Nays: 0

Minutes approved April 3, 2013

Fiona Fitzpatrick
Town Clerk